

WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT ENHANCEMENT CONSERVATION SECURITY PROGRAM

LEGUME INTERSEEDING FOR WILDLIFE

WHAT:

Legume inter-seeding is performed into existing grass stands to provide and/or maintain a 30 percent or higher legume component for food and improved plant diversity for wildlife. Legumes allowed for this enhancement are:

- a. For introduced grass stands – Red clover, white clover, Korean or Kobe lespedeza.
- b. For native warm season grass stands – Partridge pea, Illinois Bundleflower.

WHEN:

Legume inter-seeding may be performed either in the spring period of February 15 to April 14, or in the fall period of September 1 to October 15. On an individual acre basis, this enhancement must be performed once every three years in rotation, beginning the year following selection and scheduling in the contract. On the basis of the contract, this enhancement will be performed annually.

WHERE:

This enhancement is allowed for pastures and haylands of introduced grasses or native warm season grasses.

HOW:

Contracts that only contain an individual field planned for this enhancement are restricted to treating one third of the field each year in rotation. Contracts with multiple fields are allowed to treat one third of the contract acreage annually in rotation in the pattern described in the contract. Dense existing sod must be mowed, prescribe burned, grazed, etc. to facilitate planting. Planting is restricted to the no-till drilling of the seed. Lime and fertilizer application will be required if needed based on a current soil test to facilitate legume establishment and persistence in the stand. A soil test is required every three years for this enhancement.

HOW MUCH:

Seeding rates and seeding dates for approved legumes are as follows:

- a. Red clover – two pounds per acre sown in the fall period.
- b. White clover – two pounds per acre sown in the fall period.
- c. Kobe lespedeza – 14 pounds per acre sown in the spring period.
- d. Korean lespedeza – 14 pounds per acre sown in the spring period.
- e. Partridge pea – eight pounds per acre sown in the spring period.
- f. Illinois Bundleflower – nine pounds per acre sown in the spring period.

Only one legume species is required to be established under this enhancement.

CSP Enhancement payment will be \$10 per acre per year.